10/23/70

Dear Howard,

Some puffery for the Clay fight on TV last night reminded me you were going to try and get in touch with him after you returned home. I presume you were not able to or didn't have time.

However, another opportunity has come up, where he could be helpful if he wanted to be and where, if he had the love for King the things he has said would lead one to believe he holds, he might want to help, might even want to be part of it.

And, aside from any conversation you might have with him, please keep this confidentil.

I can now have access to all the Quiem Hanes and Foreman files. It depends on when where I'd have to go for them. I presume xeroxing would be possible. If I were to do it immediately, it would require going to Nashville, Atlanta and Birmingham. By the first of the year they may all be in Birmingham.

As you realize, this serves no literary purpose for me, cannot be used in my books, which is now being set in type and would be completed before them (that is, the type-setting would be). It is a project that can do me no good and can only cost me time. However, for those with any interest in the crime and its victim, this data should be collected and available for an archive. I have in mind the King library, if they'll accept it. I'd presume that as of this minute, they'd be afraid to and would give a different reason for declining it.

After his fight, if you have time, please try and get to speak to him about this. You can tell him about the work I've don, insofar as you are familiar with it on this case. My finances, as you know, preclude my doing anything without some such help. If I do not get it, as time passes and those with the data really understand the slef-indictment in it, it will become unavailable. Unless this is done sometime in the near future, I think it will become impossible at the very least for the lifetime of those involved, and I suspect their descendants will destroy it-if these people do not first.

He'd be more than welcome to come here and see what I have, what I got from Justice, what it means, read the book, etc-whatever he might want to satisfy himself of my good faith and the soundness of my work and beliefs.

Nothing else new. Best,